



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application No.

10/659,712

Confirmation No.

4760

Applicant

BERND STADLER, et al.

Filed

: September 11, 2003

TC/A.U.

: 3727

Examiner

: To Be Assigned : 028987.52701US

Docket No.
Customer No.

: 23911

Title

ROOF RACK FOR VEHICLES

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 CFR §§ 1.97 and 1.98

Mail Stop Missing Parts

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

This supplements the Information Disclosure Statement submitted in the aboveidentified application on September 11, 2003.

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 CFR §1.56, Applicant hereby notifies the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office of the documents which are listed on the attached Form PTO-1449 and/or listed herein and which the Examiner may deem relevant to patentability of the claims of the above-identified application.

In compliance with the concise explanation requirement under 37 CFR §1.98(a)(3) for foreign language documents, Applicant encloses herewith a copy of a corresponding foreign Search Report citing such documents, together with an English-language version (if not already included) of that portion of the Search Report indicating the degree of relevance found by the foreign office.

The present Information Disclosure Statement is being filed before the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits. Furthermore, I hereby certify that each item of Application No. 10/659,712 Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement

information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement and therefore no fee under 37 C.F.R. §1.17(p) is required.

The submission of the listed documents is not intended as an admission that any such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application. Applicant does not waive any right to take any action that would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove any listed document as a competent reference against the claims of the present application.

February 3, 2004

Respectfully submitted,

Donald D/Evenson Registration No. 26,160

Song Zhu, Ph.D.

Registration No. 44,420

CROWELL & MORING, LLP Intellectual Property Group P.O. Box 14300 Washington, DC 20044-4300 Telephone No.: (202) 624-2500 Facsimile No.: (202) 628-8844

DDE/SZ/mys (#302173)

PTO/SB/08a (08-03) Approved for use through 07/31/2006. OMB 0651-0031

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number. Complete if Known Substitute for form 1449A/PTO 10/659,712 **Application Number** INFORMATION DISCLOSURE Filing Date September 11, 2003 First Named Inventor **BERND STADLER** STATEMENT BY APPLICANT Art Unit 3727 Examiner Name To Be Assigned (use as many sheets as necessary) Attorney Docket Number 028987.52701US Sheet of

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS								
Examiner Initials'	Cite No. ¹	Document Number Number-Kind Code ² (if known)	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear			
	AA	US- 6428263	08-06-2002	SCHELLENS				
	AB	US- 6158638	12-12-2000	SZIGETI				
		US-						
	-	US-						
	Ì	US-						
		US-						
		US-						
		US-						
-		US-						
	l	us-						
		US-						
		US-						
		US-						
		US-						

		FOREIC	N PATENT DO	CUMENTS		
Examiner Initials'	Cite No.1	Foreign Patent Document Country Code ³ -Number ⁴ -Kind Code ⁵ (if known)	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁶
_	AC	FR-2596344	10-02-1987	BOISGERAULT		AB
	AD	DE-19723360	12-10-1998	HOEGER, STELLRECHT & PARTNER		AB
	AE	DE-36262896	02-11-1988	HARALD SCHMIEDER		AB
	AF	WO-87/07568	12-17-1987	PELTOLAN METALLOY		
	AG	EP-0511179	10-28-1992	GRUPPO MECCANICHE		
·	AH	EP-0101054	02-22-1984	HEINRICH WUNDER GMBH & CO. KG		AB
	Al	JP-07266999	10-17-1995	OI SEISAKUSHO CO LTD.		AB

Examiner Date Signature Considered			
Signature	Examiner	 Date	
Olgitataro Societa de	Signature	 Considered	

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. 1 Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). 2 See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. 3 Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). 4 For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. 5 Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. 6 Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandra, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.